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Scott E. Thomas Acting Chairman Federal Elections Commission Washington, DC 20463 January 27, 1999

RE: MUR 4866

Dear Mr. Thomas,

I am writing to you in response to your letter of December 8, 1998. Due to a mix-up in our mail delivery, I did not receive your letter until after the Holidays

The Elections Committee of the County of Orange (ECCO) is an all volunteer, grass-roots political action committee (PAC) on both the state and federal level. The organizations board of directors volunteer their time, 5 or 10 hours a month or whatever time they can, to keep the organization operating. None of us are "experts" in the political arena just ordinary citizens exercising our rights through the political process.

Because we are both a state and federal PAC, we have differing reporting requirements. When we were informed of the missed report, the April 1998 Quarterly Report, we set about responding as quickly as possible to get the report to the commission. We apologize for the tardiness of the report and assure you that we have put in place a check system that will assure that it will not happen again.

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We admit that we were in error by the late filing of the April 98 Quarterly Report and we have set in place measures to assure timely reporting in the future. We believe that the Federal Elections Act intends to encourage grass-roots organizations such as ours not to punish them. Therefore, we are asking for any consideration you can provide us in this matter.

Very truly yours.

Tamara Jean McIntyre Treasurer / Controller

cc: Lisa A. Davis